



The Blurb



Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

62 Years of Public Service, 1949 to 2011

Volume 61 Number 10

www.phil-mont.org

October 2011



William D. Chimel, KB3HUG



Robert Paul Hoops, W3EGL



Caitlin J. Brady, W3CJB

Three 2011-12 Phil-Mont Scholarships Awarded...

For the ten years since its founding in 2002, The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club's Scholarship Program has been awarding scholarship grants-in-aid to eligible young amateurs pursuing a higher education beyond the high school level. As reported last Fall, the club offered three grants for the 2011-12 academic year: The annual Claude H. Haring, Jr., W3IIM, Memorial Scholarship, with a \$2,000 grant; and two named Silent Key Scholarships: The Rolland E. Madara, W3PWG, Memorial Scholarship; and The George W.K. King, W3PXY, Memorial Scholarship...each with a \$1,500 grant.

The administration, application process, and the selection of recipients, is provided - without cost to Phil-Mont-- by the Scholarship Committee of the Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. Two of the three awardees this year are not new to our program, having received Phil-Mont grants in prior years. The third is a Phil-Mont member!

Read more about the recipients on page 4

<i>The Blurb</i> is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. <i>Copying and quoting</i> is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. <i>Subscriptions</i> are available to non-members for \$12, addressed to the Treasurer. Editor: Rick DeVirgiliis ND3B nd3b@arrl.net 215-908-7225 Club Archivist: Gwen Patton NG3P ng3p@arrl.net 610-630-9862 Labels and mailing: KB3IV Submissions deadline: All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.		Directors: W3AOK (11) WA3KIO (11) N3XKE (11) KB2ERL (12) W3STW (12) WU3I (12) ND3B (A)		Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 88 Abington, PA 19001 http://www.phil-mont.org Website: Eric N3QV & Andrew KC2PMW For club information: Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: KB3IV			
		Sunday Morning Net Schedules • 2 Meter/ 70cm Net..... at 0930L on W3QV repeater • 10-on-10 Net at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM) • 75 meter Net at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB • ARES at 2100L on the W3QV repeater					
Committees Archives: NG3P Audit: NS3K Blurb folding: KB3IV & N3GLU Directory: KB3IV		DX: N3MT Emerg.Coor: K3HWE Field Day: KE3QB Internet: N3QV & KC2PMW Membership: N3XKE		Net Control: KB3IV Publicity: W3RM Program: Club VP Public Service: KE3QB Refreshments: W3AOK Repeater: W3AOK		Scholarship: W3RM Skywarn: WX3PHI Sunshine: N3GLU VE Program: NS3K Welcome: N3UBY Youth: N3MT	

All visitors are welcome!

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at **Roxborough Memorial Hospital**, 5800 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128
Maps and directions are available at www.phil-mont.org.

License Examinations are held on the fourth **non-holiday Thursday** each month at **Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002**
Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or jmccloskey@msn.com for the latest information.

Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System
Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA **Trustee: W3RM**
147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz
Reach us on EchoLink through W3QV-R
W3AA Trustee: WU3I
W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: N3QV

The Officers

Pres: KB3IV Ed Masarsky 310 Saw Mill Ln. Horsham PA 19044 kb3iv@comcast.net
Vice Pres: N3QV Eric D. Marano, PO BOX 233, Skippack PA 19474 n3qv@arrl.net
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Treas: W3RM Richard A. Moll roger.mike@verizon.net
Asst. Treas: N3MT Michael P. Taraborrelli michaelmt_1999@yahoo.com

The Prez Sez ...

I am writing my column on Thursday 9/22 at 1:30 PM. I just turned on my IC-706 and it was parked on our club 10 meter frequency. I only have an indoor dipole antenna but I am listening to K7KHW just north of Seattle, Wa. in qso with another station. Yes the bands are finally open.

Yesterday I put a dipole up in the trees at my daughter's house and on my first call spoke to a mobile station located in Italy who was running 200 watts into an antenna on his vehicle. That was on the 10 meter band. Sounds like the sunspot cycle has finally arrived, albeit a little late. Those of us who have the equipment, antennas and license class are in for good times.

This news should be the incentive for upgrading to General or Extra class and getting antennas deployed. Our club members are ready, willing and able to assist you if you just ask. Come to a meeting or get on the nets and let us know what you need. There are two Ham Fests in our area this month, so get out and find those bargains. There are plenty of radios, antennas and materials for home brewing systems available.

Did you get the phone call yet asking you to run for office on the Board of Directors? Stay close to your phone; it will be ringing any minute. We need your participation and insight to keep our organization fresh and exciting. Please say, "Yes" when called.

I wish to extend a "Welcome Aboard" to Stuart Zeiger, KB1QW, our newest member. The board at the September meeting voted Stuart in. We are looking forward to meeting you at the October meeting.

Everyone enjoy the autumn season and hope for pleasant weather and operating conditions before we get hit with you know what. I can't even bring myself to say that word. 73.

de Ed, KB3IV

Phil-Mont Birthdays & Tidbytes

October Birthdays

- 01 Ed Masarsky - KB3IV
- Charlie Phelps - N3OOV
- 02 Susan DeCicco (XYL KE3QB)
- Donna Stevenson (XYL K3HWE)
- 03 Lisa Brady – KA3VIL (XYL N3CB)
- 06 Chris Brady – N3CB
- Joan Freer (XYL W3YLT)
- 07 Stuart Zeiger - KB1QW
- 08 Frank Kohn - W3MHP
- 10 Patricia DiNardi (XYL N3XKE)
- 11 Charlye Johnson, Jr. - K3CJ
- 31 Dick Klein - W3WXC

Membership Stats

At press time PMRC had:

- 80 Full Paid Members
- 8 Family Members
- 6 Youth Members
- 1 Honorary Member



***This month's Thursday evening VE session
is on the 27th***

As always, many thanks to our VE team!

From the Secretary

Minutes of the Board of Directors and General Meetings, September 14, 2011

Postponed from September 7, a meeting of the Phil-Mont Board of Directors was held prior to the General Meeting at the Wolcoff Auditorium on September 14, 2011. The following directors were in attendance and voting: KB3IV, presiding; W3AOK, ND3B, KB2ERL, WU3I, WA3KIO, W3RM and W3STW.

The Board reviewed and approved an application for membership submitted by Stuart W. Zeiger, KB1QW, whose information was published in the September Blurb.

W3RM, treasurer, provided a detailed financial report of the club's income and disbursements for April through August, which period included both Field Day and the completion of the extensive repeater antenna and coax installations at W3QV/R. The report was approved as submitted and distributed to the directors.

Gwen, NG3P, who has housed the club archives for many years, has requested their relocation to a new site. A new storage site will be arranged hopefully during October.

With the annual election of officers/directors coming up in December, Ed will appoint a nominating committee chairperson.

There being no further matters requiring attention of the directors, the board meeting was adjourned at 2010, and was followed by the General Meeting.

General Meeting

Following refreshments, KB3IV convened the general meeting, welcoming visitors. Ed announced that any changes to directory information should be submitted to him, so that the addendum to the directory can be published before the end of this month, and mailed with the October Blurb.

Dick, W3RM, spoke about the Phil-Mont Scholarship Program, congratulating Caitlin, W3CJB, and Andrew, KC2PMW, both of whom received two 2011 scholarship grants this year through the F.A.R., including Caitlin's receipt of our PMRC George W. King, W3PXY, Memorial Scholarship.

Carmen, KE3QB, spoke about the upcoming annual MS-150 event, and distributed T-shirts and packets to those participating in communications. It was estimated that some 8,000 riders will be on the course this year.

After the business session, the members viewed two ham radio-related DVD's provided by W3AOK.

Respectfully Submitted,

Al, W3STW,
acting secretary

Scholarships

continued from cover

The Claude H. Haring, Jr., W3IIM, Memorial Scholarship was awarded again this year to William D. Chimel, KB3HUG, of Clarks Summit, PA, who received the Haring grant in 2010. Will is now in his Junior year at Penn State, seeking a degree in Information Technology. He is also a partner in a small business, earning funds toward his education. In his letter of appreciation to Phil-Mont, Will states that "...the last year has been a difficult period," following the April deaths of both grandparents, who lived with the family. "I was concerned that I might not be able to return to Penn State this September. But, happily, with the assistance of family and friends, and your scholarship, I have returned to school for my Junior year...I have been able to maintain a 3.0 or higher GPA for my college career...and I am hopeful that I shall be completing my undergraduate work in May, 2013, after which I hope to pursue a masters degree. Once again, please accept my sincere appreciation for selecting me again to receive the Phil-Mont Haring Scholarship."

Continued next page...

The Rolland E. Madara, W3PWG, Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Robert Paul Hoops, W3EGL, of Watsontown, PA. Paul is also a former Phil-Mont scholarship recipient, having received the Haring Scholarship in 2009, when he was entering his freshman year in the honors program at Rochester Institute of Technology. During the past year, Paul was selected to participate in the "Bachelor's/Master's Program at RIT, a five year program leading to the award of both Bachelor's and Master's degrees upon graduation. Paul wrote, "I continue to be involved with amateur radio as much as my studies will allow." Paul is very active in emergency communications, participating in drills with the Milton ARC. He is also helping his father, Bill, K3WJH, a Baptist minister, in converting a Class B motorhome as an Emergency Communications Unit for use by the Pennsylvania/New Jersey Southern Baptist Disaster Relief Agency.

The George W.K. King, W3PXY, Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Phil-Mont member Caitlin J. Brady, W3CJB, daughter of Chris, N3CB, and Lisa, KA3VIL. Caitlin has been licensed since age 9, and has participated in many Phil-Mont activities through the years, including the MS-150 City-to-Shore Ride, Field Day, and various public service events. She also enjoys working DX, and participating in the Sunday night youth nets on 2 meters. Caitlin writes, "This scholarship will help me immensely in my academic pursuits at Drexel University, where I will be studying architecture. I have heard there is a station at the college, and I can not wait to utilize its equipment with my new General Class license! I also believe this may be an opportunity for me to introduce the world of amateur radio to other young adults, and perhaps spark an interest in them becoming ham radio operators. I am so proud to be a part of the amateur radio community, and I am truly appreciative to have been selected as the 2011 recipient of Phil-Mont's generous scholarship award!"

It should also be noted that Caitlin received a second scholarship grant through the F.A.R., in addition to Phil-Mont's award;
AND,
Phil-Mont member Andrew J. Furlong, KC2PMW, who also entered college this fall at Rowan

University, was awarded two ham radio scholarship grants from other donors.

de Dick, W3RM

Radio Stores ... 'N'More ***By Bob Thomas, W3NE***

DAVID SARNOFF – PART 3 **Self-made Radio and TV Visionary**

Radio broadcasters of the early 'thirties were not delivering the cultural programming envisioned two decades earlier by David Sarnoff. Even after the FCC was created by the Communications Act of 1934 there was negligible intervention by the government affecting program content. D.S. might have controlled RCA's subsidiary NBC but he was helpless to stem the public's craving for vapid programs. He did however, bring culture to his network, and in a big way. He employed Artur Rodzinski to organize the NBC Symphony Orchestra, which was initially conducted by Pierre Monteux until Sarnoff persuaded the renowned Italian conductor Arturo Toscanini to take the baton in 1937. Toscanini conducted the orchestra for the next seventeen years in NBC studio 8H, on numerous international tours, and for RCA-Victor records. Saturday afternoon broadcasts of the Metropolitan Opera were also inaugurated by Sarnoff.

The early 'thirties also marked an era when D.S. provided material assistance to Major Edwin Armstrong to field test his cutting-edge FM radio system by allowing him to install a 200-watt FM transmitter and VHF antenna at NBC's site on the Empire State Building. In addition, an RCA engineer was assigned to conduct extensive FM reception measurements at his home in Haddonfield, NJ. Despite that boost, FM still failed to gain industry recognition and Armstrong had to remove his transmitter from Empire State to make room for an RCA transmitter to be used for television field tests. The Major, rebuffed by his old friend, sold his RCA stock to fund an elaborate FM

station at Alpine, N.J. where the spectacular technical quality of his broadcasts finally dispelled any doubt about the superiority of FM over AM.

Sarnoff was eventually forced to negotiate with Armstrong for an FM system license even though the last thing he wanted was a new development that would impact sales of RCA AM radios and broadcast equipment. The two sides were tantalizingly close to agreement but when Armstrong insisted on the same royalties he was getting from other manufacturers, Sarnoff and company walked away, determined to devote RCA resources to television. Going their separate ways, Armstrong's FM system began to be adopted for public service mobile communications and numerous military applications. The FCC released its backlog of applications for FM station construction permits, and FM was selected for the sound channel of U.S. television broadcasting when new TV standards were issued in 1941. RCA accelerated development of television in anticipation of the 1939 World's Fair where it received an encouraging response from the public. However, the plans of everyone in the electronics field were put on hold after December 7, 1941.

David Sarnoff had been in the Army Reserves since 1925, serving for two weeks most years. After war was declared he was called to duty as head of the Signal Corps Advisory Board until 1944, when he was assigned as personal advisor to General Eisenhower in London. He was given unusual flexibility under Ike to bypass channels to requisition any material and personnel needed to build and staff a broadcast facility for transmitting programs to troops in the European and the Mediterranean theatres. Another task was to investigate and cure inadequate throughput of Command communications. Drawing on his experience at Marconi wireless stations, D.S. found existing Command Network capacity to be only one-third of requirements and instituted sweeping changes to handle anticipated invasion traffic. Sarnoff also was ordered to improve the deficient CW skills of Signal Corps operators. He discovered that although CW operators had to copy 25 wpm, their instructors could typically only copy 10 wpm! "Appropriate" changes were made and by D-Day we had a solid reservoir of qualified radio operators.

Sarnoff was discharged after the war as a Brigadier General, one of the proudest achievements of his life.

Back at RCA after the war, Sarnoff oversaw inauguration of regularly scheduled television broadcasting by NBC, manufacture of TV station technical equipment, and introduction of the TS630 TV receiver (1946, 30 tubes) for \$435. The 630 was a fabulous success, manufactured in huge quantities by RCA and sold as kits or complete chassis to innumerable other companies that had yet to establish their own designs. Television was a cash cow for the corporation until 1953 when the market had matured and competition increased. In anticipation of that, D.S. had pushed development of an all-electronic compatible color TV system that would not make existing monochrome receivers obsolete. The FCC approved the NTSC (National Television System Committee) standards for the RCA color television system on December 23, 1953.

Approval of the color system was one thing, but public acceptance was something else. Color receivers were expensive, difficult for an average person to adjust, and broadcasters had a lot to learn about making color uniform from one station to another, even from one camera to another! But the biggest impediment to acceptance was lack of programs in color. By 1959 color TV was faltering and David Sarnoff was in deep trouble with his Board of Directors. The company had already pumped over \$100 million into development and Sarnoff wanted another \$40 million to put color over the top. He finally prevailed, and devoted much of the new funding to a bold expansion of programming by NBC, culminating in all prime time programs in color in 1964. That sparked sales just as D.S. had predicted, and his company was once again on solid ground.

With the success of compatible color television, D.S. had accomplished the last of his major goals, but he continued to press his scientists and engineers for developments in new frontiers of electronics until he retired in 1965 at age 74. After enjoying a short retirement, General Sarnoff passed away following a long and painful illness on December 12, 1971.

*A Helpful tip about...****Pulleys:***

Sometimes, situations present the need for a pulley, but pulleys are not a good idea when putting up wire antennas. Use ceramic egg insulators or "Johnny ball" insulators instead.

Pulleys can rust if they are the wrong material, or the rope can jump off the wheel and jam itself between the wheel and the housing. Whenever this happens, you'll tear the whole thing down and start over, at least on that end.

Ceramic insulators are very slick, very tough and have no moving parts. I have some up that have been in use as pulleys for over twenty years with no problems.

You really don't need end insulators if you use weed - whacker cord for supporting ropes. It's also very resilient and won't wear out over tree branches with tree sway. Get at least the 0.1" diameter cord. Color seems to make a difference with regard to UV breakdown...green lasts longer...black and clear don't last as long

Thanks to Ed, KB3IV

For Sale

Optoelectronics FC-50 frequency counter,
ARRL handbooks 1933 - onward
Kreco 10 meter coaxial vertical antenna,
Antique headphones,
Multimeters,
and old technical books.

Contact Tom Bohlander WA3KLR

Contact Tom Bohlander WA3KLR, 215-536-1331

Have you seen this ham?

Approach with caution, may be over-caffeinated and extremely talkative!

October at PMRC ...

2nd Sun KB3SJS NCS
 5th Wed Board Meeting
 8th Sat Yom Kippur
 9th Sun WU3I NCS
 10th Mon Columbus Day
 12th Wed General Meeting
 16th Sun KB3IV NCS
 23rd Sun KC2PMW
 27th Thur VE evening test session
 30th Sun N3QV NCS
 31st Halloween Boo!

And don't forget the **ARES** net every
 Sunday night at 2100L and the new **Digital**
Net Tuesdays at 1900L, both on W3QV/R

--... ..-- .. . -.. ...--

First Class Mail

Check out this rope for your antenna project –

3/32" Braided Olive Drab - Dacron / Polyester cord

This is a high quality braided polyester cord with a breaking strength of 210 pounds. Proudly Made in the U.S.A.!

This is a gorgeous solid braid perfect for dipole antennas. Very low stretch and strong. Will withstand the weather & sun for 7 to 10 years.

PRICE \$10.00 PER 100 FEET

SOLD IN 100 FOOT LOTS

CONTACT STEVE WU3I AT

WU3I@ARRL.NET

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc
 310 Saw Mill Lane, Apt 6D, Horsham PA 19044

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